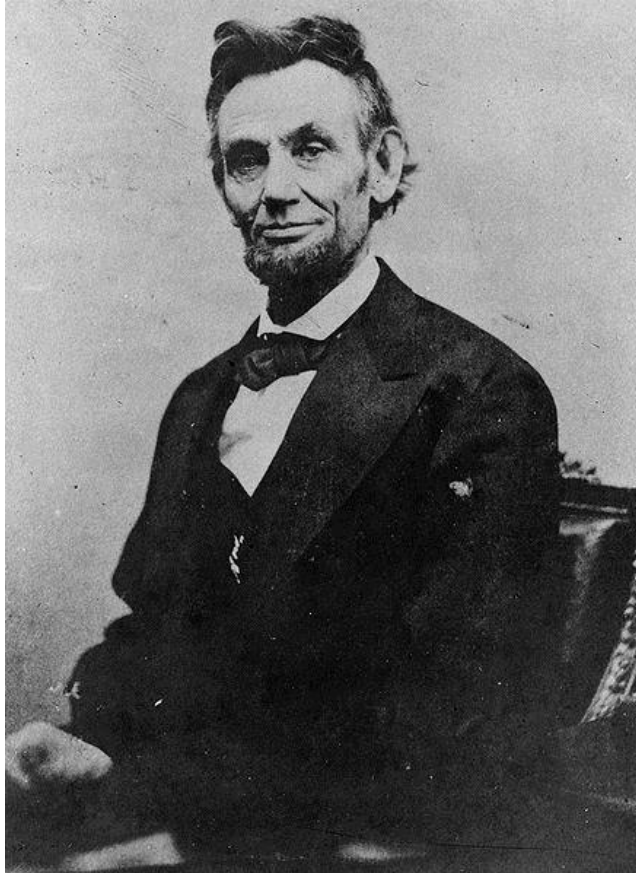


The Reconstruction

Identifications and Vocabulary Related to the Reconstruction of the American South, 1865 - 1877



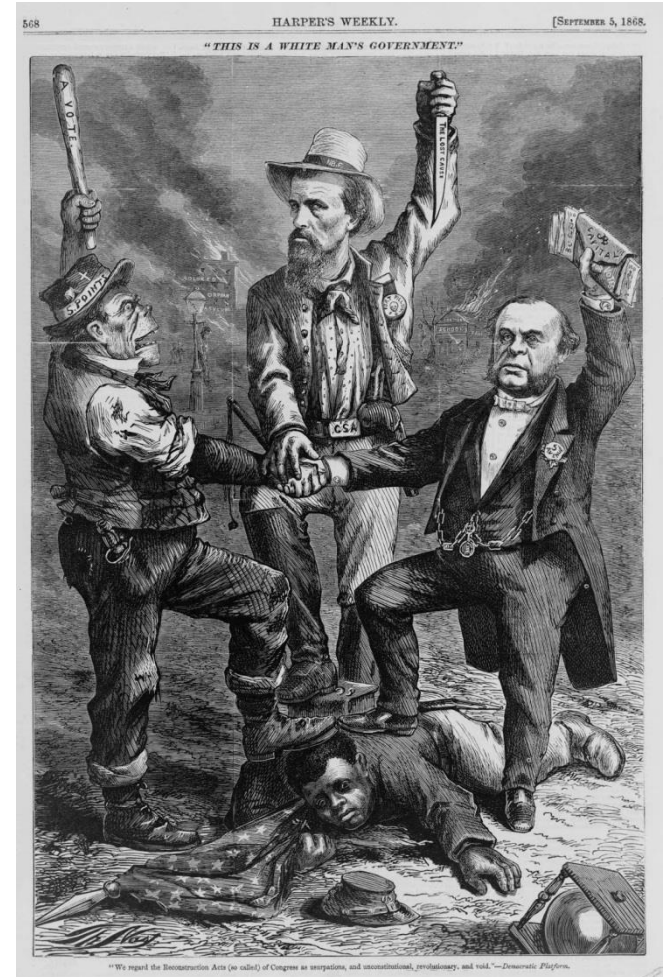
Abraham Lincoln



This Republican President of the United States wanted to treat the former Confederate states leniently after the Civil War. He was assassinated by a former actor and Southern sympathizer – John Wilkes Booth. Although known as the “Great Emancipator” Lincoln’s opinions on the role that African-Americans would play in society were constantly evolving. At the time of his death, he was not necessarily in favor of full citizenship rights or voting rights for formerly enslaved African-Americans.

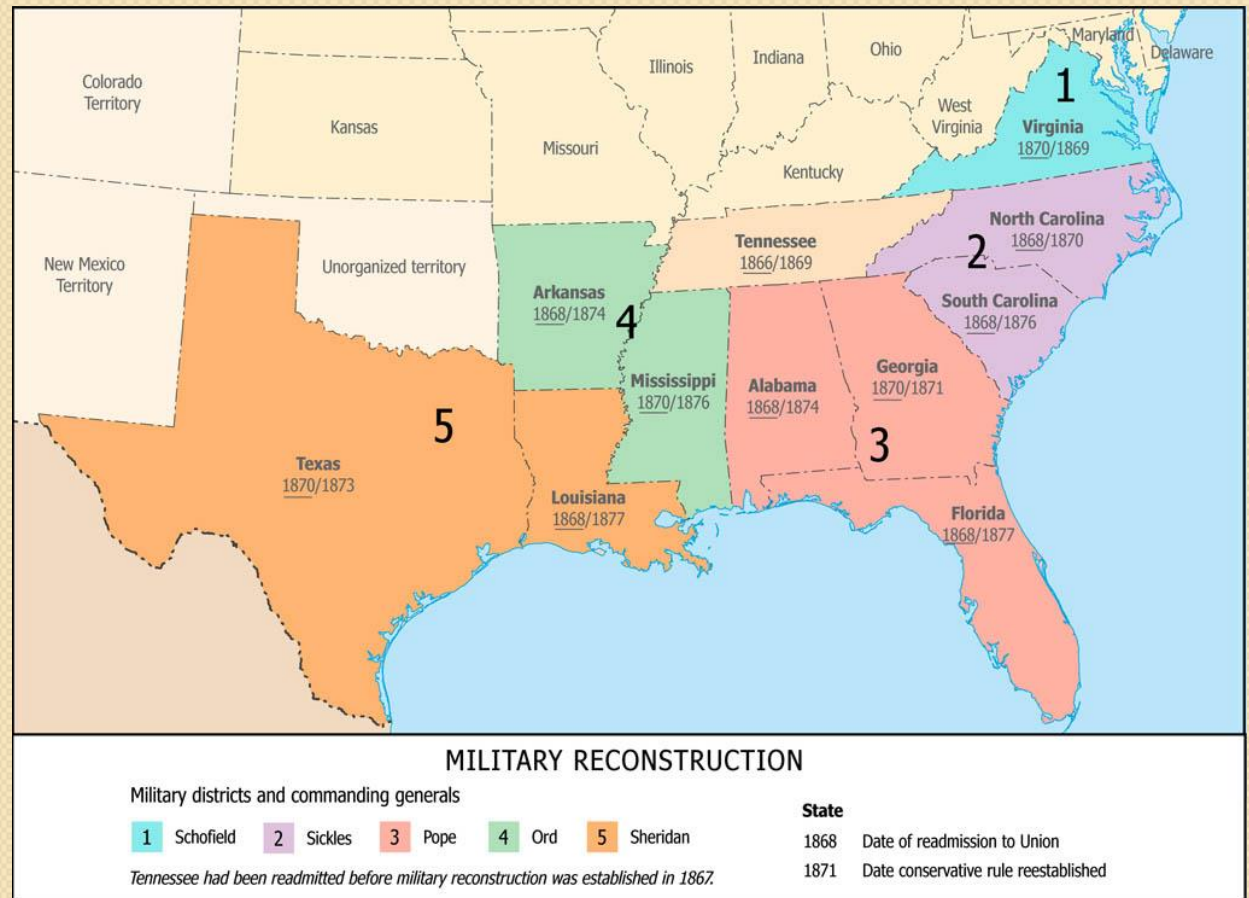
The 13th Amendment

After the Civil War, every Southern state would have to ratify this amendment, which ended slavery in the United States of America, before it re-entered the Union. Nevertheless, some states refused. The State of Mississippi – due to a technicality which no one in the state saw fit to address – did not ratify the 13th Amendment to the Constitution until 2013! The state legislature had approved the amendment in the 1990s, but never filed the appropriate paperwork with the National Archives to register their ratification.



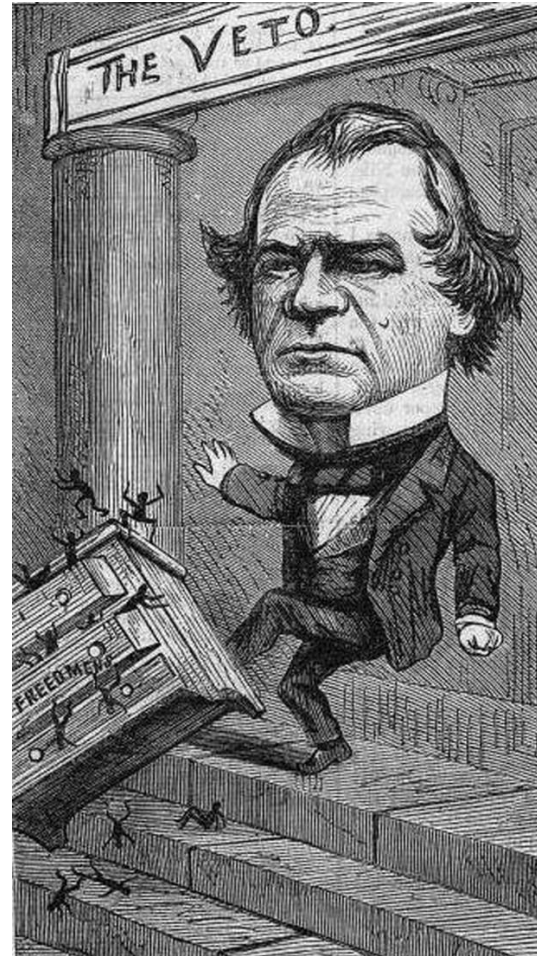
MILITARY RULE, OR MILITARY OCCUPATION

Since the state governments in Southern States were no longer valid at the end of the Civil War, order was kept by this method – five districts were created in the former Confederacy. The only state which had been a part of the Confederacy but escaped military occupation was Tennessee – the home state of the President. Due to its size and proximity to the nation's capital, the state of Virginia was a district all to itself.



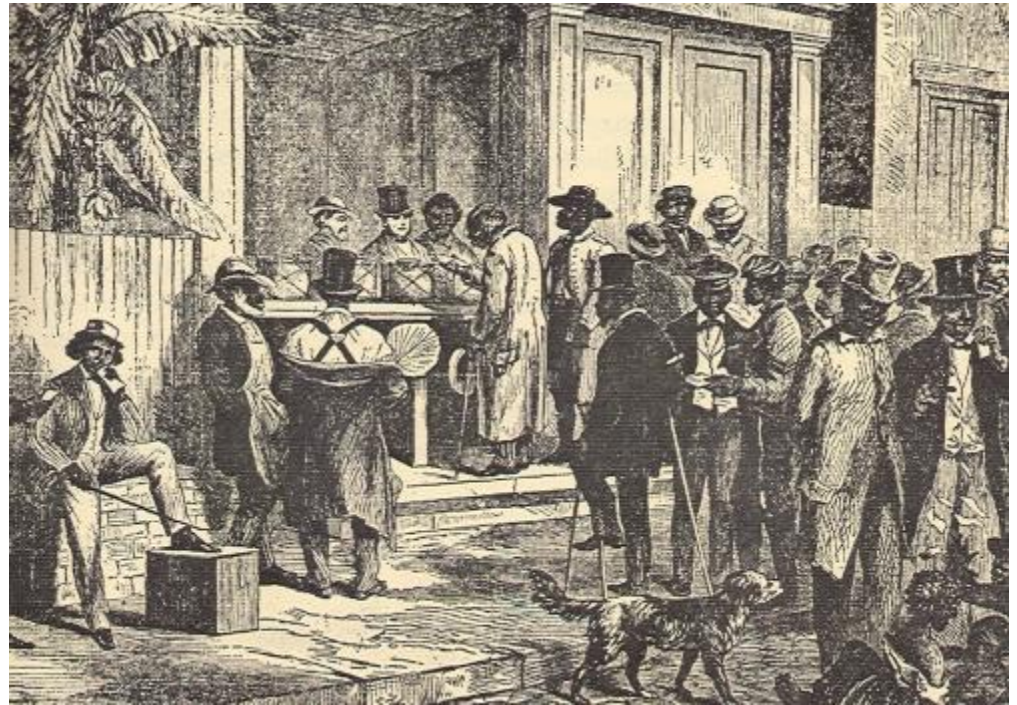
Andrew Johnson

He was a Democrat from a Southern State – Tennessee – but when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, he became the President of the United States. Radical Republicans were extremely upset, fearing he would be too conciliatory toward former Confederates.



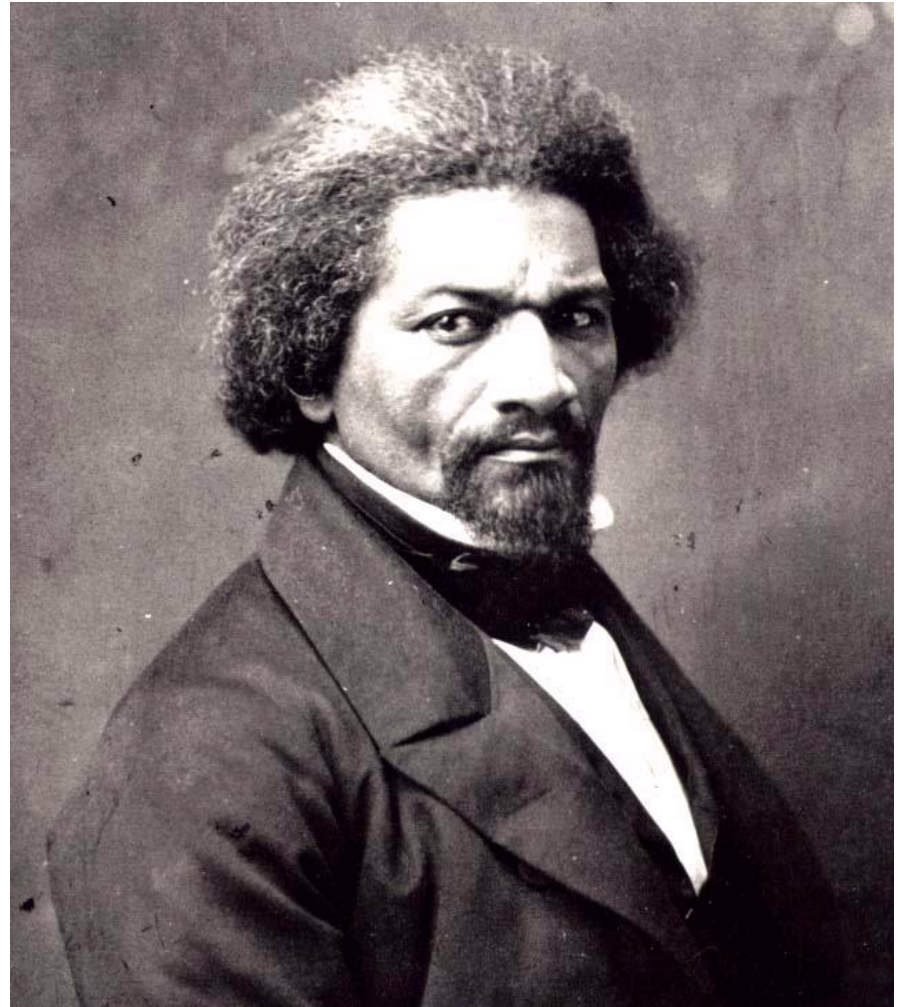
The 15th Amendment to the Constitution – Suffrage Rights

The 15th Amendment promised that suffrage would not be denied to male voters on the basis of race, skin color, or previous condition or servitude. It was largely ineffective until the Voting Rights Act of 1965 came along. Today, the Supreme Court is considering arguments to reverse the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Alabama argues that the federal oversight is no longer necessary.



Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was a former slave who became one of the most outspoken abolitionist speakers in the United States during the Antebellum Period. He was the editor of an abolitionist newspaper called *The North Star*. During the Civil War, he petitioned President Lincoln to allow newly freed slaves to serve in the United States Military. After the war, he led the Freedman's Bureau and served as the United States ambassador to Haiti.



Suffrage:

n. The right to vote. With the passage of the 15th Amendment, African American men over a certain age gained suffrage. Women of any race, on the other hand, would not gain the right to vote until the 19th Amendment was passed, in 1919.

Black Codes

Black codes were designed to keep African-Americans in the deep South in the condition of slavery even after slavery had been officially outlawed. Radical Republicans did everything in their power to overturn black codes.



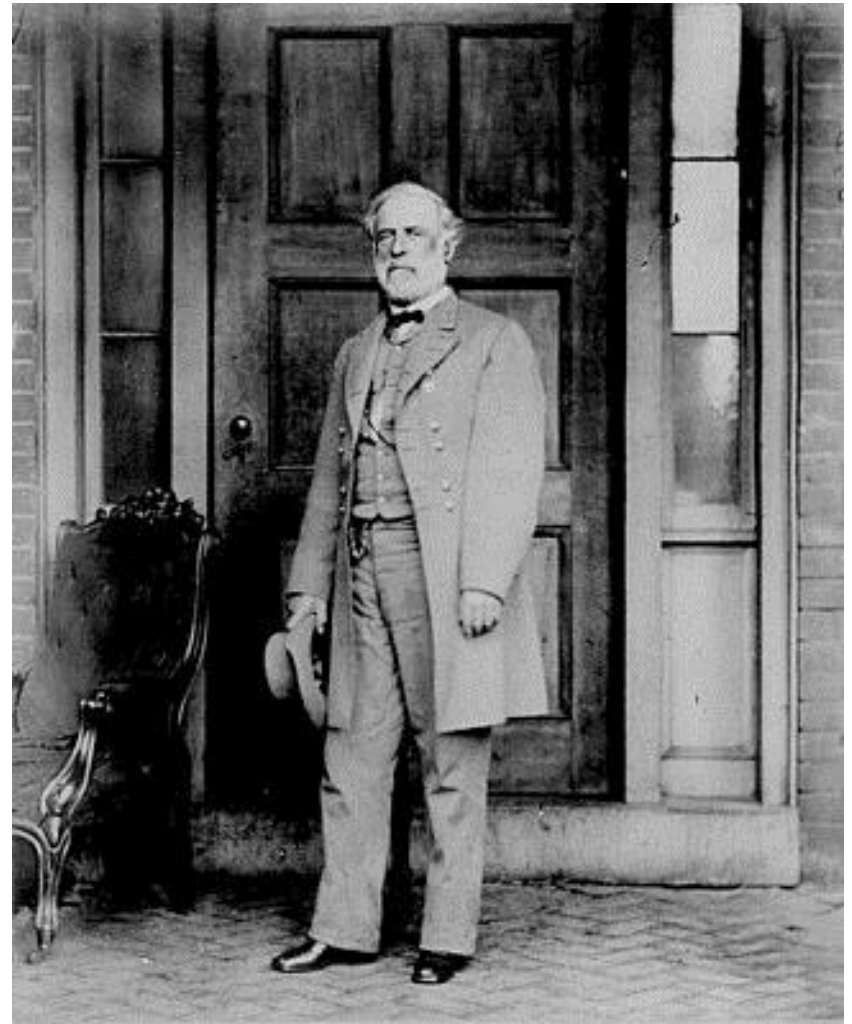
The Fourteenth Amendment

Citizenship rights were granted to anyone born in the territorial confines of the United States of America – including African-Americans and ex-Confederates, but excluding the Native American communities of the continent.



Robert E. Lee

After the Civil War, Robert E. Lee became the President of Washington College in Lexington, VA – and he continued to influence the people of the South with his statements. During Reconstruction, Lee shared the views of many, including President Andrew Johnson, that although slavery should be outlawed, African-Americans should not receive equal rights or suffrage. Lee continues to be considered a dignified gentleman, despite having committed treason.



Freedmen



The Radical Republicans

Although they were called “radicals,” most Americans embrace their ideas regarding racial equality and justice today. Radical Republicans advocated for full citizenship and suffrage rights for African-Americans. After taking over the Reconstruction process when Andrew Johnson ascended – accidentally – to the Presidency, the Radical Republicans passed the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution, guaranteeing that slavery would end, all Americans (except Native Americans) would have citizenship and equal protection under the law, and that African-American men could vote.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT!

GEARY
Is for Negro Suffrage.

STEVENS
Advocates it.

FORNEY
Howls for it.

McCLURE
Speaks for it.

CAMERON
Wants it.


The LEAGUE
Sustains it.

They are rich, and want to make
The Negro the Equal
OF THE POOR WHITE MAN,
and then rule them both.

THE RADICAL PLATFORM—"NEGRO SUFFRAGE THE ONLY ISSUE!"
Every man who votes for Geary or for a Radical Candidate for Congress, votes as surely for Negro Suffrage and Negro Equality, as if they were printed on his ballot.

The BLACK Roll
CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS
WHO VOTED FOR THIS BILL.

THAD. STEVENS
WM. D. KELLEY
CHAS. O'NEILL
LEONARD MYERS
JNO. M. BROOMALL
GEORGE F. MILLER
STEPHEN F. WILSON
ULYSSES MERCUR
GEO. V. LAWRENCE
GLENNI W. SCHOFIELD
J. K. MOORHEAD
THOMAS WILLIAMS



Ulysses S. Grant

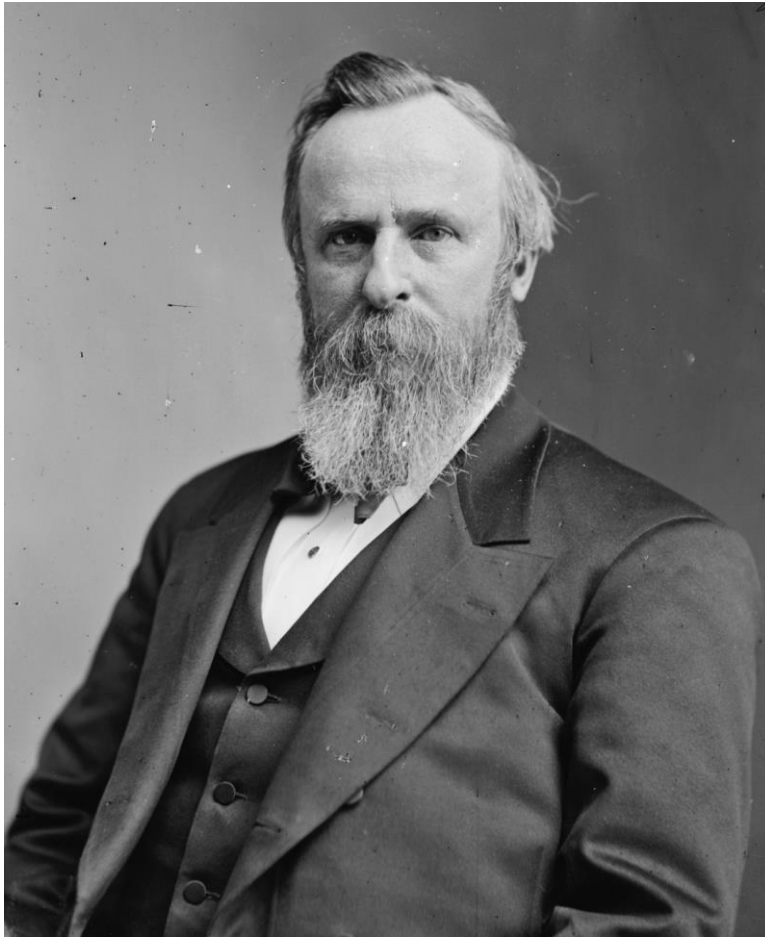


This man was the Commander of the Union Army during the Civil War, and he was elected President of the United States after the war. Although often criticized for the corruption and scandal which unfolded under his leadership while he served as President from 1869 to 1877, he was a true advocate of racial equality, and passionately believed in upholding the gains made during the Civil War Era. His memoirs – about 1500 pages worth – are a great source of information regarding both the Civil War and the Reconstruction Period.

The Compromise of 1876-77



Rutherford B. Hayes



He was the Republican candidate for President of the United States in the Election of 1876 who won the Election and ended Reconstruction. In exchange for a pledge that he would immediately withdraw all Union soldiers from the South and end the Reconstruction, Rutherford B. Hayes was handed the Presidency in the Election of 1876 – despite the fact that his rival, Samuel Tilden, had won more votes! Democrats claimed that he had robbed Samuel Tilden of the Presidency. Soon, all of the gains made during the Reconstruction Period would be washed usunder.